

January 31, 2012

Via ECFS

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Notice of Permitted *Ex Parte* Communications
WC Docket No. 11-42
CC Docket No. 96-45
WC Docket No. 03-109

Dear Ms. Dortch,

On Tuesday, January 24, 2012,¹ on behalf of PNG Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a PowerNet Global Communications, I spoke by telephone with Ms. Garnet Hanly of the Wireline Competition Bureau concerning the issuance of an order in the above-referenced Lifeline and Link Up proceeding.

Ms. Hanly and I discussed when the order would be released. We also discussed whether non-ETCs would be eligible to participate in any broadband pilot programs adopted in the order, as well as the possibility of changes to ETC eligibility rules.

My conversation with Ms. Hanly was informational in nature. At no time did I advocate for any specific policies or positions. However, at Ms. Hanly's suggestion, out of an abundance of caution, I am filing this *ex parte* notice in the instant proceeding.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

/s/

John Butcher

cc (email): Garnet Hanly

¹ This letter is being filed outside the two-business day filing period set forth in Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's Rules. I regret the error and any inconvenience it may cause the Commission.